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MayorTV Sits Down with Lexington, KY Mayor Jim Newberry Before the Kentucky Primary

"THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SHOULD SHOOT STRAIGHT. CITIES ARE THE KEY COMPONENT."

Lexington is famous for its horses and its Bluegrass pastureland. Does that mean that **Mayor Jim Newberry** thinks the presidential candidates should worry more about rural development than urban issues? Nope.

MayorTV sat down with Mayor Newberry to ask him about the role cities play in the United States today and about some of the innovative policies implemented in Lexington that the rest of the country can replicate.

"The presidential candidates absolutely must have an urban agenda... Cities are confronted with a multitude of challenges, but they are the economic engines of our country."

Mayor Newberry explained why the arts are essential to economic development, described how Lexington's Urban Growth Boundary limits sprawl, and told us how the Environmental Protection Agency forced Lexington to become more environmentally conscious. The federal government, he says, must encourage the gains in economic, environmental, and cultural growth already made at the local level.

"The best role for the federal government to play is to facilitate a lot of the activity that is already going on at the local level. The federal government should facilitate the economic development and the efforts to improve education and infrastructure that enable cities to prosper as economic engines. If the federal government would do that, we would see a tremendous boom in our nation's economy."

Visit **MayorTV** to learn more about Mayor Newberry's views on urban issues and to find out why he thinks Lexington, Detroit, and New York are more alike than most people think.

About MayorTV

In today's presidential campaign, cities are the lurking variable: though urban centers drive much of the commercial and intellectual production in the United States, the candidates have paid insufficient attention to the issues that affect urban America most.

Indeed, we are an urban nation. More than 80% of Americans live in cities. Urbanites drive 90% of our economy. But cities are even more than population centers and hotbeds of economic activity. They are the solutions to the challenges created by climate change, globalization, and economic ferment that have come to occupy so much of our policymakers' time.

To find out what urban issues the presidential candidates should be discussing, we asked the people who know our cities best: America's Mayors. In punchy video interviews, a diverse and influential group of mayors give their prescription for an agenda that supports American cities and, thus, America at large.